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DA 04-1981 June 29, 2004

COMMENTS INVITED ON APPLICATION OF ALASKA NETWORK SYSTEMS, INC. TO DISCONTINUE DOMESTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

WC Docket No. 04-241 Comp. Pol. File No. 687

Comments Due: July 14, 2004

Section 214 Application

Applicant: Alaska Network Systems, Inc.

On March 23, 2004, Alaska Network Systems, Inc. (ANS or Applicant), located at 4300 B Street, Suite 502, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) requesting authority, under section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214(a), and section 63.71 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue the provision of U.S. domestic interstate toll service in Alaska. In the application, ANS also proposes to discontinue international toll service which is governed by 47 C.F.R. § 63.19. The application was received by the Policy Division, International Bureau on May 27, 2004, and later forwarded to the Wireline Competition Bureau for processing under section 63.71.

ANS states that it was initially formed with the intent of primarily providing resold services, and that it does not currently own any facilities or serve any customers. The application, however, indicates that ANS sent notification of its planned discontinuance to the Regulatory Commission of Alaska, the governor of Alaska, and the U.S. Department of Defense, as well as to each local exchange carrier and interexchange carrier certified by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska. ANS proposes to discontinue its provision of interstate toll service in Alaska thirty-one days following the date of its filing the application.

In accordance with section 63.71(c) of the Commission's rules, the application will be deemed to be automatically granted on the thirty-first (31st) day after the release date of this public notice, unless the Commission has notified the Applicant that the grant will not be automatically effective. Accordingly, pursuant to section 63.71(c), absent further Commission action, ANS may not terminate service until July 30, 2004. The Commission will normally authorize proposed discontinuances of service unless it is shown that customers or other end

users would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier, or that the public convenience and necessity would be otherwise adversely affected.

This proceeding is considered a "permit but disclose" proceeding for purposes of the Commission's ex parte rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200-1.1216. Comments objecting to this application must be filed with the Commission on or before July 14, 2004. Such comments should refer to WC Docket No. 04-241 and Comp. Pol. File No. 687. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance on the commenter, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings, 63 Fed. Reg. 24121 (1998). Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and should include the following words in the subject line "get form <your e-mail address>." A sample form and directions will be sent in reply.

Parties who choose to file by paper must send an original and four (4) copies of the comments to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-A325, Washington, D.C. 20554. Two (2) copies of the comments should also be sent to the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 6-A207, Washington, D.C. 20554, Attention: Carmell Weathers. In addition, comments should be served upon the Applicant. Commenters are also requested to fax their comments to the FCC at (202) 418-2345, Attention: Carmell Weathers.

Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). The Commission's contractor, Natek, Inc., will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class mail, Express Mail, and Priority Mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

The application will be available for review and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554, (202) 418-0270. A copy of the application may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington, D.C. 20554, telephone 1(800) 378-3160 or (202) 863-2893, facsimile (202) 863-2898, or via e-mail at www.bcpiweb.com.

For further information, contact Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), carmell.weathers@fcc.gov, or Brad Koerner, (202) 418-0866 (voice), brad.koerner@fcc.gov, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau. The TTY number is (202) 418-0484. For further information on procedures regarding Section 214 please visit http://www.fcc.gov/wcb/cpd/other_adjud.

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